AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claim set as indicated below:

Claims 1-17. (cancelled)

18. (previously presented) A process for manufacturing a metal-infiltrated powder metal part, the process comprising:

compacting a powder metal to form a compact;

sintering the compact at a temperature sufficient to form a sintered compact with a matrix having pores;

forming an infiltrant blank from a wrought metal sheet, the blank having a locating element that is suitable for engaging a corresponding locating element on the compact;

placing the infiltrant blank in contact with the compact such that the locating element of the blank engages the corresponding locating element on the compact, the engagement of the locating element of the infiltrant blank and the corresponding locating element of the compact restricting movement of the infiltrant blank relative to the compact; and

melting the wrought metal such that the melted wrought metal infiltrates the pores of the compact.

19. (original) The process of claim 18 wherein:

the powder metal is selected from iron, iron alloys and mixtures thereof; and

the wrought metal is selected from copper and copper alloys.

20. (original) The process of claim 19 wherein:

the wrought metal sheet has a thickness of less than 1 millimeter.

21. (original) The process of claim 18 wherein:

the infiltrant blank is formed by a method selected from stamping, fine blanking and laser cutting.

22. (original) The process of claim 18 wherein:

the locating element of the blank is a section of the blank extending outwardly from a body of the blank.

23. (previously presented) The process of claim 18 wherein:

the steps of sintering and infiltrating occur simultaneously.

24. (previously presented) The process of claim 18 wherein:

the step of sintering occurs separately and before the step of infiltrating.

25. (previously presented) The process of claim 18 wherein:

the step of placing the infiltrant blank in contact with the compact includes placing the infiltrant blank on a top outer surface of the compact.

26. (previously presented) The process of claim 18 wherein:

the locating element of the infiltrant blank has an edge surface that is configured to selectively contact a wall of the compact.

27. (new) The process of claim 18 wherein the infiltrant blank is flat and extends along a plane when placed in contact with the compact.

28. (new) The process of claim 18 wherein the compact has a central opening extending axially there through and has an annular top axially facing surface with an annular recess formed therein and wherein the infiltrant blank is placed in the annular recess of the annular top axially facing surface.

29. (new) The process of claim 18 wherein:

the blank includes a tab that extends outwardly and the recess includes a portion that receives the tab in a mating relationship.

30. (new) A process for manufacturing a metal-infiltrated powder metal part, the process comprising:

compacting a powder metal to form a compact, wherein the compact has a central opening extending axially there through and has an annular top axially facing surface with an annular recess formed therein;

sintering the compact at a temperature sufficient to form a sintered compact with a matrix having pores;

forming an annular infiltrant blank from a wrought metal sheet;

placing the annular infiltrant blank in the annular recess of the annular top axially facing surface; and

melting the wrought metal such that the melted wrought metal sheet infiltrates the pores of the annular top axially facing surface of the compact.

31. (new) The process of claim 30 wherein the annular infiltrant blank and the annular recess on the compact into which the annular infiltrant blank is received are similarly shaped.

32. (new) The process of claim 30 wherein:

the blank includes a tab that extends outwardly and the recess includes a portion that receives the tab in a mating relationship.